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Press Release

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**ATTORNEY GENERAL DARRELL MCGRAW AWARDS FUNDING
TO THE MOUNTAINEER BOYS & GIRLS CLUB
FROM THE PHARMA, INC. SETTLEMENT FUNDS**

Charleston -- Attorney General Darrell McGraw today announced the distribution of \$10,000 to the Mountaineer Boys & Girls Club to fund its children's programs aimed at drug abuse prevention. This money comes from the latest installment in the \$10,000,000 settlement with Purdue Pharma, Inc. over the addictive qualities of the drug Oxycontin. A total of \$90,000 in funding will be presented to Boys & Girls Clubs across the state.

The Mountaineer Boys & Girls Club will use the funding to establish the SMART Moves program. The SMART Moves (Skills Mastery and Resistance Training) prevention/education program addresses the problems of drug and alcohol use and premature sexual activity. SMART Moves features engaging, interactive, small-group activities that increase participants' peer support, enhance their life skills, build their resiliency and strengthen their leadership skills. This year-round program encourages collaborations among Club staff, youth, parents and representatives from other community organizations.

The mission of the Boys & Girls Club is to offer guidance to children whose support system may need supplemented by mentors and additional adult influences. The use of this funding to educate children on the consequences of substance abuse and premature sexual activity is further in keeping with the Boys & Girls Clubs' long held mission to instill children with life skills that will help them avoid the pitfalls of poor judgment. This program is also in keeping with the terms of the settlement agreement with Purdue Pharma, Inc. which directs that the funds be distributed to drug education and intervention programs and also to law enforcement programs aimed at drug abuse education and prevention.

"It is an honor for my office to see the fruits of our labor go back to the citizens we serve by putting this funding into programs such as the Boys & Girls Club and therefore the community. We all have a contribution to make to civilization, and I know that we are all committed to that in our efforts."

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